

SECRET

COMPT 78-0268

16 MAR 1978

OLC-78-1114

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT: Discussion with the House Permanent Select Committee
on Intelligence about a Sensitive Project []

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25X1 1. [] On 7 March 1978 Messrs. Carlucci, Taylor, Dirks, Stevens, McMahon, and [] met with Chairman Boland of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI), Mr. Burlison of the Budget Subcommittee of the HPSCI, Mr. Robinson of the Committee, and Mr. Latimer and Mr. Bush of the Committee Staff to brief them on a sensitive project, its funding for 1979, and our proposed re-programming for 1978.

25X1 2. [] Mr. Carlucci introduced the session. I explained that the total cost of the project would probably be about [] that we had requested [] in the 1979 budget for this activity, that we might have a need for further funds in 1979 but more likely in 1980, and that we would shortly request that the Committee endorse our request to reprogram [] in 1978 towards this project. The group was briefed on the background and purpose of the project, the technical approach being taken, and the operational approach and risks.

25X1 3. [] The members and particularly Mr. Burlison wished to be assured that the President is aware of the operation before they indicate their approval. Our sense of the meeting was that they will approve the reprogramming request for this project provided we can assure them that the President is aware of what we are doing.

25X1 4. [] Subsequent to that meeting on 8 March 1978, Mr. Dirks and I met with the Director to explain to him the need to brief the President. The Director had already agreed to take the project up with Secretary Vance and said he would so in his regularly scheduled meeting with him. He said he would try to discuss it with the President on Thursday.

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James H. Taylor
Comptroller

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